

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A deck structure for a personal watercraft, comprising:
  - a deck;
  - a seat underlying opening provided in said deck;
  - a rear portion opening provided in said deck continuously to a rear of said seat underlying opening; and
  - a bridge member removably attached to said deck and defining ~~[[at]]~~ a boundary between said seat underlying opening and said rear portion opening;
  - wherein said bridge member is adapted to support a rear portion of a seat; and
  - said rear portion opening is adapted to be operatively closed with a cover.
2. (Original) A deck structure according to claim 1, further comprising an inner lid removably attached to said deck in covering relation to said rear portion opening.
3. (Currently Amended) A deck structure ~~according to claim 2, for a personal watercraft,~~ comprising:
  - a deck;
  - a seat underlying opening provided in said deck;
  - a rear portion opening provided in said deck continuously to a rear of said seat underlying opening;
  - a bridge member removably attached to said deck at a boundary between said seat underlying opening and said rear portion opening; and
  - an inner lid removably attached to said deck in covering relation to said rear portion opening;
  - wherein said bridge member is adapted to support a rear portion of a seat; said rear portion opening is adapted to be operatively closed with a cover; and a front portion of said inner lid operatively engages said bridge member plate.

4. (Original) A deck structure according to claim 1, wherein said seat underlying opening is larger than said rear portion opening.

5. (Currently amended) ~~A deck structure according to claim 4, for a personal watercraft,~~  
comprising:

a deck;

a seat underlying opening provided in said deck;

a rear portion opening provided in said deck extending behind said seat underlying opening; and

a bridge member removably attached to said deck at a boundary between said seat underlying opening and said rear portion opening;

wherein said seat underlying opening is larger than said rear portion opening, and a front end of said rear portion opening is tapered from larger to smaller extending rearwardly.

6. (Currently Amended) A personal watercraft, comprising:

a deck;

a seat underlying opening provided in said deck;

a rear portion opening provided in said deck continuously to a rear of said seat underlying opening;

a bridge member removably attached ~~[[at]]~~ to said deck and defining a boundary between said seat underlying opening and said rear portion opening;

a seat; and

a rear cover;

wherein said bridge member supports a rear portion of said seat; and

said rear cover operatively closes said rear portion opening.

7. (Original) A personal watercraft according to claim 6, further comprising an inner lid removably attached to said deck in covering relation to said rear portion opening.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A deck structure according to claim 7, A personal watercraft, comprising:~~

a deck;

a seat underlying opening provided in said deck;

a rear portion opening provided continuously to a rear of said seat underlying opening;

a bridge member removably attached at a boundary between said seat underlying opening and said rear portion opening;

an inner lid removably attached to said deck in covering relation to said rear portion opening;

a seat; and

a rear cover;

wherein said bridge member supports a rear portion of said seat; and

said rear cover operatively closes said rear portion opening;

wherein a front portion of said inner lid operatively engages said bridge member plate.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A deck structure~~ personal watercraft according to claim 6, wherein said seat underlying opening is larger than said rear portion opening.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A deck structure according to claim 9,~~ A personal watercraft comprising:

a deck;

a seat underlying opening provided in said deck;

a rear portion opening provided continuously to a rear of said seat underlying opening;

a bridge member removably attached at a boundary between said seat underlying opening and said rear portion opening;

a seat; and

a rear cover;

wherein said seat underlying opening is larger than said rear portion opening;

and wherein a front end of said rear portion opening is tapered from larger to smaller extending rearwardly.